



SILVER SPRING CHICAGO DENVER GRAND RAPIDS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DATE: October 22, 1991

TO: Colleen Hart, U.S. EPA

FROM: Evelyn Mayes, C.C. Johnson & Malhotra P.C.,

(CCJM)

SUBJECT: Mobil Oil Co E Chqo Term (MOC) East Chicago, Indiana

FIN0111PA/F05-9104-088/IND 042329631

The MOC site is located in a residential and industrial area of East Chicago, Indiana. The site is approximately 100 acres and was owned by Barnes Magnine Oil Company prior to 1930. Sakoni Vacuum acquired the MOC site from Barnes Magnine in 1930 and operated it until 1955 when the Mobil Oil company purchased the site. It is believed that both Barnes Magnine and Sakoni used the company as a refinery. Mobil continued to operate the site as a refinery until 1972 when it was converted into a storage and distribution facility for finished products which are trucked, shipped or piped in from Mobil Oil company refineries.

On August 18, 1980 a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) section 3001 Notification form was filed for the site by Mobil officials.

At the site there were three sludge pits (used for dewatering sludge) and five landfills (the location of two are unknown). During refinery operations, the sludge pits were occasionally cleaned (the last time was in 1974), and the contents were landfilled on-site. The pits are still on-site, however they are not currently used. Results of sludge pit samples taken on April 14, 1986 revealed the presence of arsenic, lead, xylene, toluene, magnesium, chromium, aluminum benzene and styrene. The dewatered sludge was landfilled at five locations on-site. The date that the landfilling of sludge ceased is unknown. None of the landfills or sludge pits were equipped with engineered liners.

Storage tanks were equipped with dikes and well point installation systems to collect potential overflow from the tanks. During an April 14, 1986 on-site inspection by FIT, an oily waste was seen on the ground surface, near tanks, below a layer of frozen ice.

The refinery, spills, petroleum, crude oil and crude oil fractions are exempt from the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, actions because of the petroleum exclusion portion of the Act. The Mobil Oil Corporation filed a Notification of Potential Hazardous Waste Site form on June 8, 1981.

C.C. JOHNSON & MALHOTRA, P.C.

200 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 2002 ● CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606 ● (312) 621-3944

A FIT site drive-by on June 19, 1991 revealed that the MOC site is completely fenced with 24 hour monitoring. There are residential homes located approximately 100 feet from site boundaries. The Lake George Canal is located adjacent to the northern boundary of the site.

There are no diking structures on-site to prevent surface site water runoff from entering into Lake George Canal. There is a surface water migration route from the Lake George Canal to the Indiana Harbor Canal and Lake Michigan (the source of drinking water for area residents). There is no groundwater used as drinking water within a 4-mile radius of the site. There is no documented evidence of a release of contaminants to air from the MOC site. Since materials are not disposed on-site and the sludge pits were cleaned, air contamination from the site is not expected.

FIT recommends no CERCLA activities because the site has a RCRA Part A interim status permit to operate as a storage and distribution facility.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DATE: October 28, 1991

TO: Colleen Hart, U.S. EPA

FROM: Evelyn Mayes, C.C. Johnson & Malhotra P.C.,

(CCJM)

SUBJECT: Mobil Oil Co E Chqo Term (MOC) East Chicago, Indiana

FIN0111PA/F05-9104-088/IND 042329631

The MOC site is located in a residential and industrial area of East Chicago, Indiana. The site is approximately 100 acres and was owned by Barnes Magnine Oil Company prior to 1930. Sakoni Vacuum acquired the MOC site in 1930 and operated it until 1955 when the Mobil Oil Company purchased the site. It is believed that both Barnes Magnine and Sakoni used the company as a refinery. Mobil continued to operate the site as a refinery until 1972 when the site was converted into a storage and distribution facility for finished products which are trucked, shipped or piped in from other Mobil Oil company refineries.

On August 18, 1980 a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Section 3001 Notification form was filed for the site by Mobil officials. (The site presently has a RCRA part A interim status permit to operate as a storage and distribution facility).

During its history, the site had three sludge pits (used for dewatering sludge) and five landfills. (The locations of two of the landfills are unknown). During refinery operations, the sludge pits were occasionally cleaned, and the contents were landfilled on-site. The last cleaning was in 1974. The pits are still onsite, however they are not currently used. Results of sludge pit samples taken on April 14, 1986 revealed the presence of arsenic, lead, xylene, toluene, magnesium, chromium, aluminum, benzene and styrene. The dewatered sludge was disposed at the five on-site landfill locations. The date that the sludge landfilling ceased is unknown. None of the landfills or sludge pits were equipped with engineered liners.

Storage tanks were equipped with dikes and well point installation systems to collect potential overflow from the tanks. During an April 14, 1986 on-site inspection by FIT, an oily waste was seen on the ground surface, near tanks, below a layer of frozen ice.

The refinery, spills, petroleum, crude oil and crude oil fractions are exempt from the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, actions because of the petroleum exclusion portion of the Act. The Mobil Oil Corporation filed a Notification of Potential Hazardous Waste Site form on June 8, 1981.

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A FIT site drive-by on June 19, 1991 revealed that the MOC site is completely fenced with 24 hour monitoring. There are residential homes located approximately 100 feet from site boundaries. The Lake George Canal is located adjacent to the northern boundary of the site.

There are no diking structures on-site to prevent site water runoff from entering into the Lake George Canal. There is a surface water migration route from the Lake George Canal to the Indiana Harbor Canal and Lake Michigan. Lake Michigan is the source of drinking water for area residents. There is no groundwater used for drinking purposes within a 4-mile radius of the site.

There is no documented evidence of a release of contaminants to air from the MOC site. Since materials are not disposed on-site and the sludge pits were cleaned, air contamination from the site is not expected.

FIT recommends no CERCLA activities because the site is regulated under RCRA.